

Play Areas (incl posts and chains): JU has sorted out the swings at Ubban-ford. JB has been carrying out weekly checks in JU's absence. VLC will arrange for RoSPA to inspect on an annual basis. The posts and chains round the Village Green are in need of some remedial work.

Seat/bin location plan: A schedule of all seats/picnic tables, and of all bins, which are the responsibility of the parish council was considered. It was agreed to add the bench by the petanque piste, notwithstanding that that area of ground belongs to NCC. It was agreed that the general policy is that if a bench is erected in memory of an individual, then it was for the family to carry out maintenance.

Public Conveniences: The soap dispensers will be put up shortly.

BT Phone box: The parish council's objections to removal of the BT phone box had been recorded by NCC, and also been sent to Anne Marie Trevelyan, who had also written to NCC in similar terms.

Leaflets for walks around Norham: These are still being distributed, but there are some left should anybody want some (available from GS).

Parish website: VLC now has admin rights on the community website.

Undergrounding of cables: GS has had discussions with the new contact at Scottish Energy Network as regards undergrounding of cables.

War memorial: There was discussion as regards the listing of the war memorial, and it was agreed on balance that it would be beneficial,

Register of Fixed Assets: The goal posts on Jubilee Field, the new planter at the east end of Castle Street, the two water pants and the poles and chains on the Village Green will be added to the draft. Further additions would be considered. The **external audit 2015/16** was received and approved. Roseanne Bennett will be asked to act as internal auditor again next year.

Budget and Precept for 2017-2018: Assuming that NCC will reimburse path maintenance and WC cleaning/maintenance payments at the current level, allowances were agreed for the following items: VLC salary £850, office materials £175, Insurance £450, NALC and CAN dues £170, Training £10, Maintenance payments to Churchyard upkeep £150, to Newsround £100, To Village Hall £200; Donations To Air Ambulance £50, to Poppy Appeal £30, to CAB £50. D Gibson had agreed to keep his charges at the same level so £1600 was agreed for path maintenance, to cover the usual paths, and instead of Fishers Walk he will cut the path at the east end of South Lane. An allowance of £300 for tree related contingencies was also agreed. It was agreed to increase the allowance for playground maintenance to £800 as some replacement might be required. The Community Fund will pay for any maintenance required to seats and picnic benches. Electronic speed signs will be retained as a special project, the intention being to erect one at Birch Hill when finances allowed. Thus the Precept would be increased to £4000 (about £2 per household) which was not seen as unreasonable. Planning Application relating a new porch at Bow Well Farm has been granted.

Roads and Pavements: Problems by Morris Hall Farm, Birch Hill and with the outfall by the Castle workshop, a damaged gully in the lane behind West Street and by the rear gate of 2 St Cuthbert's Square will be reported. There was fly tipping in Stackyard Lane, on the Mount Carmel road and by the railway bridge just past Morris Hall Farm.

Meetings 2017: 23/1, 27/3, 22/5, 24/7, 25/9, and 27/11

Date of next meeting **23 January at 7.30pm in Village hall**

For full version of minutes see www.norham.org or village noticeboard.

NORHAM NEWSROUND FEBRUARY 2017

Forthcoming Events.

Wednesday 1st February : **Blessing of Salmon Fishing**; 8am; Pedwell

Thursday 2nd : **W.I. meeting**; 2pm in the Village Hall.

Thursday 9th : **Parish Walk** Meet on the Green at 9.30am.

Monday 13th : **M.U. meeting**; Branxton Village Hall; 2pm

Wednesday 15th : **Community Lunch**; Norham 1st School; 12 noon.

Thursday 23rd : **Drop-in-4-Coffee** in church 10.30-12 noon.

COMMUNITY LUNCHES at Norham First School. 12-1pm on 15th February and 22nd March. Everyone is welcome. If you would like to join us please call on 382370.

W.I. At the February meeting (2nd at 2pm) Rob Kelsey will give a talk 'Walk Along the River Tweed'. All welcome.

MOTHERS' UNION The February meeting (Monday 13th) will be the Annual General Meeting.

LOOKING TO SELL? My partner and I are looking to buy our first home in the Village. We are older first time buyers with no chain and are interested in a property in any state of repair. Please contact me on 0754 9751 716.

Thank you.

Melanie Leitch

HELP REQUIRED A gentleman called Bill Davidson who lived in Norham from 1945-1950 is looking for any information (or photographs) anyone might have about Norham football team in the 1940s and 1950s. If you have any memories about the team he would be very happy if you telephone him on 01828633002.

FLYTIPPING There has been some recent flytipping noticed in and about the village — in Stackyard Lane, by Birch Hill, on the Mount Carmel road and by the railway bridge past Morris Hall Farm. Please remember that flytipping is illegal, and under The Unauthorised Deposit of Waste (Fixed Penalties) Regulations 2016 the County Council may issue a fixed penalty notice, or you may be prosecuted. Flytipping may be reported via the County Council website.

A MASSIVE THANK YOU to everyone who supported Smile for Christmas this year by donating gifts into the boxes in the Masons Arms and the Church. This is a great way to show community spirit. A little gift for the people who wake up alone on Christmas morning. We have received lots of good feedback and thank you cards, which means a lot. We hope you have all had a lovely Christmas and Happy New Year to you all from The Smile for Christmas Team.

FROM THE ORGANISERS OF THE VILLAGE ADVENT EVENTS. We would like to say a huge "Thank you" to all those who supported the events over the Christmas period.

The Living Nativity once again attracted over 100 followers. Two donkeys led the way (thanks to Mrs Smale of Thornton). Those following joined in the carol singing and listened to the Christmas story. All ended up at the Hall to witness the opening of the village's nativity scene and to listen to Jacqui Budge singing 'Oh Holy Night'. All agreed it was absolutely beautiful and a lovely way to conclude the event. Over £100 was raised to support Community Funds. The Fund this year has already paid for over 1000 bulbs being planted along the wall near the Village Hall.

The Advent Windows proved to be just as amazing as last year. The additional challenge of finding the 'penguin' in the scenes had many people visiting over and over again until they cracked the saying. The answer was 'We wish you a merry Christmas'. The winning adults were Jennifer and Clive Price and the children's section was won by Cerys Keeley.

Thanks to the Mason's Arms for putting up the prizes. Window numbers should be returned to 6 Castle Street please. It is hoped that both events will run again this year.

NORHAM & LADYKIRK BRIDGE NCC are proposing masonry arch refurbishment works on Norham Bridge. The works would take around 10 weeks with extra resources being allocated to the project. The work will involve night time closures, and traffic lights during the day. The bridge would be completely closed during the daytime whilst the bridge was resurfaced. It will be indicated that the harvest period from mid-July to mid-August should be avoided if possible.

ST CUTHBERT'S SUMMER FAIR 2017 Sat 24th June 2-4(ish)
Just 5 months to go!!

Obviously you will be just about to start your big spring clean(!) and perhaps will have unwanted Christmas presents, bottles, books, bric a brac, etc. And don't forget the pre-loved vintage clothes/hats/handbags/jewellery etc! Well, we want it all! So if you have any 'stuff' let us know!

And if you would like to help with the fair in any capacity please contact Tory Craig 01289382754 torylintoncraig@aol.com

A BLESSING OF THE SALMON FISHING

at Pedwell Landing, Norham(at the bottom of Pedwell Lane)

Wednesday 1st February 2017 8 am

Conducted by the Rev Robert Kelsey (Vicar of Norham)

Everyone is very welcome Enjoy a wee dram after the service
The casting of the first line The Pedwell prayer will be said

For further information phone Jim Blythe on 01289 382442

Learning Together about the Ten Commandments

The Local Ministry Development Group at Norham Church is organising two groups for those who would like to learn more about the Christian faith, and grow in the knowledge and love of God.

We'll be using the Follow Stage of *Pilgrim: A Course for the Christian Journey* (www.pilgrimcourse.org). Each session will finish with either afternoon tea or a simple shared meal. The venues are to be decided, but lifts will be available.

Each group will meet six times for about 1½ hours on the following Wednesdays in Lent: **8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th March and 5th & 12th April.**

If you'd like to take part, or to find out more, please contact the Revd Rob Kelsey on (01289) 382325 or robert.josephkelsey@live.com.

**The Parish Church of Saint Cuthbert, Norham
and Norham CofE First School**

You are invited to

**A child-friendly
Service of Holy Communion
on Ash Wednesday (the beginning of Lent)**

**1.30pm, Wednesday 1st March 2017
in Norham Church**

The service will include the (optional!) Imposition of Ashes.
(If you don't know what that means, why not come and find out!)

ITEMS FOR MARCH NEWSROUND

Any contributions should be given to Josephine Harris (382363) before Thursday 23rd February. Newsround is put onto our website each month; if you do not wish your name, telephone number, or any other detail to be published, please advise.